

Today's Topics:

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UoSAT-2 spin rate?

Date: 25 Oct 89 21:24:32 GMT

From: cadnetix.COM!cadnetix!rusty@uunet.uu.net (Rusty Carruth)

Subject: callsign database????

In article <36733@lll-winken.LLNL.GOV> washer@lll-winken.LLNL.GOV (Jim Washer) writes:

>Is there a database out there that might have call signs posted, BEFORE
>such callsigns arrive in the mail from the FCC??? If so how do I access
>such a database?

Hi, James!

I've got some bad news for you. :-)

For \$30/year, you can get access to the Buckmaster database (I believe that they get the monthly updates, more on that later). You must pay for the long-distance call, though. This means that you could (theoretically, anyway) be the first on your block to know what the next available callsign is :-), or what anybody's new callsign is, for that matter.

However, having personal experience with the FCC and the NTIS w.r.t. getting the callsign database, I can say the following:

The information you could get from Buckmaster will be AT LEAST 3 weeks old, and most likely at least 5 weeks after the fact. We (I) ordered the callsign database from the NTIS for the September update. I did not get the data until sometime last week (or was that week before last? Sorry, I did not write it down but I'm pretty sure it was last week). Partially because the NTIS did not get the info from the FCC until pretty late (I've been told).

And don't forget that the FCC ships the info to the NTIS at the first of

the month, so if your callsign is issued on the 2nd (and probably the first), add 4 weeks to the above numbers for the NTIS times. Barely worth the trouble, if at all, since it is pretty likely that you'll have the license in hand before Buckmaster even has the tape with you on it (so to speak).

(Same story as last year, more or less...)

So, you could find out what your callsign was about 5 weeks (or more) after the FCC issues it. And, you will receive your license about 5 weeks after the FCC issues it. So you can pay \$30 to Buckmaster to find out what you will know (for free) about the same time as you can get it from Buckmaster. Not worth it, I'd think. Short of knowing someone at the FCC who will look through the FCC's database, I know of no other way to speed up your receipt of the information you want.

Sorry about that. I'd love to hear a better way...

(This year the NTIS put a little sheet of paper in the info packet which said "This product is made available by NTIS to increase public accessibility to federally funded technology. Since NTIS is required by law to be self-supporting and must recover all costs of its operations from the sale of its products, NTIS requests that you not resell this product in its original form as provided by NTIS..." So, they charge \$625 for the FCC database (and LOTS of money for 'public' software, as well) and wonder why they are not swamped with orders? Good thing they ship it in a really sicko format, or the callsign project would be history! of course, if they only charged \$100 for a realistic format of tape they could probably sell enough to actually make money.... Oh, well.)

BTW, there are 488,000 records this year, there were 430,000 last year, size of var-length file is about 46 meg, fixed-length file is about 108 meg (all numbers approximations).

---Join the usenet un-net, 28.410 and/or 28.390, 1600Z to 1700Z saturdays!
Rusty Carruth. Radio: N7IKQ ^^ or later :-)
DOMAIN: rusty@cadnetix.com UUCP:{uunet,boulder}!cadnetix!rusty
home: POB. 461, Lafayette 80026

Date: 25 Oct 89 13:53:05 GMT
From: rti!tijc02!jkl1141@mcnc.org (John Leroy)
Subject: Crystals needed!

I'm looking for a few novice-band crystals for an old cw rig to be used in a jr. high school ham radio course. I've located

the rig, but no crystals yet. Looked in the new JAN catalog,
and they want eight bucks apiece now! Anybody got a couple old
crystals sitting around willing to part with them cheap,
let me know by email. Thanks.

--

-John LeRoy

Packet Radio: WA4VLV @ WX4S
Compuserve: 74136,401
UUCP: mcnc!rti!tijk02!jkl141
Phone: 615-461-2440

Date: 25 Oct 89 21:58:51 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hpscdc!rkarlqu@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Rick Karlquist)
Subject: Guemes Island followup

>
> Tad, KT7H says:
>
> Actually, Rule 3b stands alone. But if you choose to interpret it as
> part of Rule 3a, the mileage figure is 75 miles, not 275 miles.
> Guemes, in relation to Tatoosh, meets this test. But rule 3b

Are you saying these two islands are more than 75 miles from the
mainland? My understanding was that you could actually see Guemes
from the US mainland. That would be less than 75 miles normally.

N6RK

Date: 25 Oct 89 13:50:13 GMT
From: att!cbnewsd!jmseb@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (john.m.sebeson)
Subject: interested in opinions

In article <8200@microsoft.UUCP>, garthh@microsoft.UUCP (Garth Hitchens) writes:
> I am considering purchase of a ten-tech Triton IV solid state tranceiver.
>
> Does anyone have any experience with ten-tec tranceivers in general, or
> with this model?
>
> Also, what should I be paying for this?
>

> I am familiar with the japanese lines, but not with ten-tec. I understand
> they have a following. Why?
>
> Thanks,
>
> garthh@microsoft.com

I have owned a Ten-Tec Omni D for about 9 years. It's technology is no longer state-of-the-art, but I have been very pleased with it. Ten-Tec designs the box so you can access all the circuitry and service it yourself. Their customer/technical service is excellent, much better than the big-name manufacturers, or so I hear. Example: last year I had a minor problem with the receiver. I called their factory service number and I was immediately put in contact with a guy who knew every detail of my 8 year old box ("check the 5K resistor on circuit module x, the one just to the left of the transformer....."). He gave me a 8 point check list to find my problem ("you don't want to pay \$50 for us to look at it"). Once I found the problem, I called him back and he sent a new part on credit (total cost: 12 bucks plus two phone calls).

Performance of the rig is good. Its QSK is superb. Very clean audio on SSB. The final amp transistors take a 3:1 swr with no problem and full power output. It's simple, basic design seems to be very reliable, with few things to go wrong.

Bob Parnass, AJ9S, just bought a Paragon, and I wouldn't be surprised if he posted his comments on it (he told me he liked it).

~~~~~  
John Sebeson  
KB8RY  
Naperville, IL

~~~~~  

Date: 25 Oct 89 17:15:00 GMT
From: inmet!benk@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Is there any DXing or media-oriente

A new news group called "rec.raido.shortwave" (if I'm not mistaken) has ben proposed that would be a perfect place to post the kind of SWL/DX releated stuff you're talking about. If you think the idea of this kind of newsgroup is a good one, I think that there is still time for you to

send in your "Yes" vote. Consult news.newgroups.announce for details.

-- Ben Krepp

From uunet: uunet!inmet!benk
From DDN: benk@inmet.inmet.com

P.S. The reason SWL/DX related stuff is posted to rec.ham-radio at the moment is that -- at the moment -- there is no better place for it to be posted. I doubt that anybody who posts SWL/DX related stuff in rec.ham-radio wants to "get in the way" of the purely ham-related stuff at all.

Date: 26 Oct 89 04:23:41 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!usc!merlin.usc.edu!girtab.usc.edu!
eickmeyer@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Biff Henderson)
Subject: Over-the-horizon Radar (was Re: Radar)

In article <HUOPIO.89Oct25171815@kannel.lut.fi> huopio@kannel.lut.fi (Kauto Huopio) writes:
>-Well, I think that there is one over the horizon radar site in the USA too..

I toured Grand Forks Air Force Base outside Grand Forks, North Dakota, over the summer, and they told us that a top priority project is building an over-the-horizon radar system. I don't know anything about the status of the construction (i.e. just dreaming or actually building) or about the specifications or capabilities, I was just on an unclassified tour when they mentioned it.

Date: 25 Oct 89 23:20:10 GMT
From: att!cbnewsc!tedk@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (ted.g.kekatos)
Subject: SHORT WAVES

I recommend the Sony 2003 shortwave receiver. It covers 153 Khz to 29.95 Mhz. Operates on 4 AA batteries.

Ted G. Kekatos N9IXE (formerly KB9DCQ)
UUCP: ...!att!ihuxv!tedk (312) 979-0804
AT&T Bell Laboratories, Indian Hill South, IX-1F-460
Naperville & Wheaton Roads - Naperville, Illinois. 60566 USA

in that. Also, part of the reason for doing this was to have someone to talk to when I heat up the old HF rig (I started to say warm up, then remembered that its a tube rig :-). Another part of the reason was to get some of us (myself included) off our duffs and onto the airwaves (oh, oh - I see some really nasty comments coming :-), and to perhaps encourage some of us (again, myself included) to think about upgrading. So to move to a General or above subband would defeat part of the fun/purpose I had in mind when starting off the concept.)

> BB>> Why not join us every Sunday at 1615 and 2215 UTC on 28.4 MHz, + or -
> BB>> a few kHz if there's QRM...

>

> RC> ... so would not be able to join the Fido net anyway.

>

> Hummphh...go ahead and BE that way! Seriously, we kinda figgered that,
>given the inherent vagaries of 10-meter propagation and the wide-reaching
>intergalactic (OK, coast-to-coast) nature of these BBS Echoes,
>mid-morning to Noon and mid-afternoon to early evening would provide the
>most folks the largest chance of getting on.

In fact, I may manage to get free some weekend to check in to the Sunday time slot. In any case, I don't really see any great conflict with having 2 of these 'un-nets' (or roundtables, if you prefer) running...

> Go ahead with the Saturday un-net and have a ball. I'm sure many Fido
>users will join you...I'll sure try!

In fact, usenetters who cannot make the Saturday UN/RT (un-net/roundtable :-)
are encouraged to shoot for the Sunday one!

>... I suppose we could, theoretically, start at around
>8:00 AM Pacific Time and just gabble away all day long...

That would be interesting. Assuming the band does not shut it down.

>with enough

>"checkins", you could say Hello and not have your turn to transmit come
>around again until late afternoon!

Yow! I hope not! I 'need' to talk more often than that :-)

> RC> And on a slightly different subtopic of the same subject:

>

<discusion of east and west coast contacting each other and hanging around>

Actually, I was looking at my map (yep, I finally got around to marking up a map to see where all I'd talked to), and noticed that CA is really not that much closer than the closest eastern contacts I've made. I've noticed

that western stations seem to come in in the evenings, and eastern stations come in better in the mornings. (Is this a reasonable conclusion? I don't know, but am willing to be instructed :-)) So I'm probably biasing my activities towards the east coast. I'll definately try to be back to 410 and/or 390 (+or-) at 1700Z and 1800Z as well (note - new time coming this saturday!).

> Ask Alan if he'd like to hook up with the Fidonet "Net" on Sundays at
>1615 or 2215 UTC...28.4 MHz...listen for (or call) "CQ Fidonet HAM RADIO
>Echo Users",

Yo, Alan. Consider yourself asked :-)

<commenting about Boulder county>:
>... And tell the granola-chomping Yuppie
>County Commissioners to stick their antenna prohibitions...!

Please! This is a family forum :-)

> RC> our own QSL system?...[stuff deleted]....Anyway, any thoughts?
>
>...fritter away our time?? Besides, I don't have access to a laser
>printer, and I like getting nifty postacards...beats just the bills that
>clog my mailbox!

'tis true, and having heard nothing to the contrary, I will for the moment say, those who wish to, send 'standard' postal-type QSL cards.
(I'm having some made up with a field for me to check if its a usenet qso. (ouch! one printer wanted \$75 for 500 single-color, \$135 for 500 two-color (I've got a mountain I want in the background...)) So, I do plan to QSL. Others who think cards are a waste of time are welcome to not send qsl cards... :-)

> Hope to hear ya!

Ditto!

>73 de Brian Battles WA1YUA
>QTH New Britain, Conn.
>Internet: Brian.Battles@f880.n141.z1.fidonet.org

And, dont' forget, time changes this weekend. It will still be at 9am Colorado local time, which means 1600Z to 1700Z or later.

This weekend is also the CQ WW QSO party, I think, so by all means feel free to chase 'real' DX instead of usenet contacts this weekend :-)

(An aside - I have been discussing via email with a gentleman who has

pointed out what the problem with my rig probably is, so I may actually be back on the air this Saturday, who knows?)

Well, thats more than enough for now, 73 de rusty n7ikq

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DOMAIN: rusty@cadnetix.com UUCP:{uunet,boulder}!cadnetix!rusty
home: POB. 461, Lafayette 80026

Date: 26 Oct 89 02:16:42 GMT
From: osu-20.ircc.ohio-state.edu!bertsch-s@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Stephen C. Bertsch)
Subject: TS-180S

I'm looking for other folks out there who own a Kenwood TS-180S/DFC. So far I've only seen two of them, mine and one at a hamfest. If you've got one of these and want to trade info on mods, tricks, bugs or whatever, give me buzz.

Steve N8KWV Internet: bertsch-s@osu-20.ircc.ohio-state.edu
The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Date: 26 Oct 89 01:20:59 GMT
From: unmvax!ariel!hydra.unm.edu!ollie@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (David Oliver Eisman)
Subject: UoSAT-2 spin rate?

Hi. Does anyone know the average spin rate for UoSAT-2? I'm curious as to how CCD images are taken from the spacecraft.

Also, information about the UoSAT-2 'gravity gradient boom' would be helpful.

Thanks es 73

Ollie Eisman - N6LTJ ollie@hydra.unm.edu
3505 Lafayette Rd. NE #3, Albuq, NM 87107
(505) 277-4845 or (505) 884-7848

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #805
